## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

**Claims 1-17 (Canceled)**

**Claim 18 (Currently Amended):** A device for confirming a validity of result of clinical examination of a part of a subject for a clinical examination, the device comprising:

a receiving unit configured to receive present data that is clinical data of the part obtained this time and previous data that is clinical data of the part obtained last time;

a storing unit configured to store a plurality of reference patterns, the reference patterns being classified into a plurality of levels and being two-dimensional image data;

a selecting unit configured to select, from the reference patterns, a first reference pattern best matching with the present data and a second reference pattern best matching with the previous data;

a calculating unit configured to calculate a value indicative of a distance between a position of the first reference pattern and a position of the second reference pattern in the reference patterns arranged two-dimensionally; and

a determining unit configured to determine a validity of the present data based on the value.

**Claim 19 (Original):** The device according to claim 18, wherein the first reference pattern and the second reference pattern are reference patterns most closely approximate to the present data and the previous data respectively.

**Claim 20 (Original):** The device according to claim 18, wherein data in each of the present data, the previous data, and the reference patterns includes image data.

**Claim 21 (Original):** The device according to claim 18, wherein data in each of the present data, the previous data, and the reference patterns includes waveform data.

**Claim 22 (Original):** The device according to claim 18, further comprising a clustering unit configured to perform clustering on the reference patterns.

**Claim 23 (Original):** The device according to claim 18, further comprising a display unit configured to display a message indicating that the clinical examination of the part can be wrong when the determining unit determines that the present data is invalid.

**Claim 24 (Currently Amended):** The device according to claim 18, wherein

the storing unit includes a database of reference patterns each having reference ~~patters~~ patterns for a different kind of clinical examination, and

a group of reference patterns corresponding to a desired kind of clinical examination is retrieved from the database to be used.

**Claim 25 (Original):** The device according to claim 18, further comprising a value storing unit configured to store a list of values indicative of distances between the first reference pattern and the second reference pattern, wherein

the calculating unit is configured to extract a value corresponding to the distance between the first reference pattern and the second reference pattern from the list.

**Claim 26 (Currently Amended):** A method of confirming a validity of result of clinical examination of a part of a subject for a clinical examination, the method comprising:

receiving present data that is clinical data of the part obtained this time and previous data that is clinical data of the part obtained last time;

storing a plurality of reference patterns, the reference patterns being classified into a plurality of levels and being two-dimensional image data;

selecting, from the reference patterns, a first reference pattern best matching with the present data and a second reference pattern best matching with the previous data;

calculating a value indicative of a distance between a position of the first reference pattern and a position of the second reference pattern in the reference patterns arranged two-dimensionally; and

determining a validity of the present data based on the value.

**Claim 27 (Original):** The method according to claim 26, wherein the first reference pattern and the second reference pattern are reference patterns most closely approximate to the present data and the previous data respectively.

**Claim 28 (Original):** The method according to claim 26, wherein data in each of the present data, the previous data, and the reference patterns includes image data.

**Claim 29 (Original):** The method according to claim 26, wherein data in each of the present data, the previous data, and the reference patterns includes waveform data.

**Claim 30 (Original):** The method according to claim 26, further comprising clustering the reference patterns.

**Claim 31 (Original):** The method according to claim 26, further comprising displaying a message indicating that the clinical examination of the part can be wrong when the determining unit determines that the present data is invalid.

**Claim 32 (Previously Presented):** The method according to claim 26, wherein

the selecting includes retrieving a group of reference patterns corresponding to a desired kind of clinical examination from a database of reference patterns each having reference patterns for a different kind of clinical examination.

**Claim 33 (Original):** The method according to claim 26, further comprising storing a list of values indicative of distances between the first reference pattern and the second reference pattern, wherein

the calculating includes extracting a value corresponding to the distance between the first reference pattern and the second reference pattern from the list.

**Claim 34 (Currently Amended):** A computer-readable recording medium that stores a computer program for making a computer execute:

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receiving present data that is clinical data of the part obtained this time and previous data that is clinical data of the part obtained last time;

storing a plurality of reference patterns, the reference patterns being classified into a plurality of levels and being two-dimensional image data;

selecting, from the reference patterns, a first reference pattern best matching with the present data and a second reference pattern best matching with the previous data;

calculating a value indicative of a distance between a position of the first reference pattern and a position of the second reference pattern in the reference patterns arranged two-dimensionally; and

determining a validity of the present data based on the value.

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